

Express Mail Label No. 950490369US

Date of Deposit: September 5, 2002

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 15966-697 (CURA-197)

SEP 05 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Verinet et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 09/800,602

EXAMINER: Fozia Hamud

FILING DATE: March 5, 2001

ART UNIT: 1647

TITLE: NOVEL PROTEINS AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

SEP 12 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as set forth below and consider the following remarks.

#### In the claims:

Please add new claims 50-54:

- B1
50. A Method of producing the polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising culturing a cell under conditions that lead to expression of the polypeptide, wherein said cell comprises a vector comprising an isolated nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 7.
  51. The method of claim 50 wherein the cell is a bacterial cell.
  52. The method of claim 50 wherein the cell is an insect cell.
  53. The method of claim 50 wherein the cell is a yeast cell.
  54. The method of claim 50 wherein the cell is a mammalian claim.

### CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application claims a single invention which could not be properly further restricted. If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 5, 2002

*Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 48,593*  
Ivor R. Elrifi, Reg. No. 39,529  
Attorney/Agent for Applicants  
c/o MINTZ, LEVIN  
One Financial Center  
Boston, Massachusetts 02111  
Tel: (617) 542-6000  
Fax: (617) 542-2241